

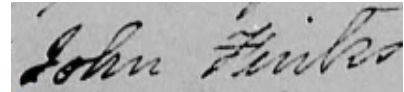
Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Mark Finks R3551 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia, Madison County S.S.

On this 27th day of February in the year 1834, personally appeared in open Court, before the court of the county now sitting, John Finks son of Mark Finks of said county and state, and represents to said court, that his father Capt. Mark Finks was born on the 1st day of July 1744, as appears by the family record now in possession of the family of the said Mark Finks, that he is in his ninetieth year, and from old age his mind has been completely destroyed. That he has been informed by living persons that his father served repeated tours of duty as an officer in the Revolutionary War from the then County of Culpeper, now Madison County, and further that the Militia service of the said Mark Finks as an officer is of universal notoriety in his neighbourhood. That he was born and raised within the limits of the county of Madison, and that he has ever continued to reside there; That he is not on the pension Roll or Agency of any state. And that he the said John Finks makes this representation to the court on the part of his Father who is now living, that he may receive the benefit of the law of Congress of the 7th of June 1832; And from the best information that he can obtain by living witnesses, he believes that his father rendered at least six months service as an officer in the War of the Revolution, form the testimony of the following persons to wit: John Creal [John Creel pension application W534], Jacob Aylor [Jacob Aylor S8040], Thomas Jones, William Yowell [William Yowell (Yowel, Youell) W5551] and William Taylor [W6238] living witnesses.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

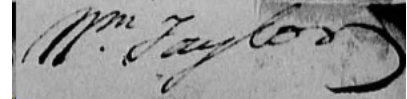


I Thomas Jones of Rappahannock county (late culpeper County) State of Virginia do hereby certify I served a tower of duty in the militia from the county of Culpeper, in the war of the Revolution, with Capt. Mark Finks, who was at the time an Ensign and belonged to the company of which I was a private. Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Tho hisXmark Jones

I Jacob Aylor of the county of Madison and State of Virginia, aged eighty five years, do hereby certify that as I was on my return from the revolutionary service, I met Capt. Mark Finks on his way to the Army and James Murray Lieutenant under him. I met him at the Ground Squirrel bridge near Richmond [on South Anna River 20 mi N of Richmond]. Given under my hand this 26th day of February 1834. Jacob hisXmark Aylor

I William Yowell of the County of Madison and State of Virginia, aged seventy two years, do hereby certify, that Capt. Mark Finks served a tour in the war of the Revolution with me. that he acted as Capt during the said tours and I distinctly recollect that the said Capt Mark Finks requested of me to act as his servant, which I however did not do. The commanding Officers under whom we served during this tour were Colo. James Slaughter and Major Henry Hill. I do further certify that I have lived in the neighbourhood of Capt Mark Finks during the last fifty years, that he is ninety years of age and that he is now deprived of his mental faculties from old age, and that he is now living. Given under my hand this 26th day of February 1834. William hisXmark Yowell

I William Taylor of the County of Madison and State of Virginia, aged eighty years, do hereby certify that I knew Captain Mark Finks in the war of the Revolution; that Capt Finks was the commanding officer of the company, whilst the company to which I belonged continued under the same command. I further certify that I have lived in the same neighbourhood with Capt Finks for fifty years past; I believe he is ninety years of age, and that he is now deprived of his mental faculties from old age, and that he is now living. Given under my hand this 26th day of February 1834.



State of Virginia }
Culpeper County } SS

On this 22nd day of April 1834 before the subscriber a justice of the peace in and for said county personally appeared John Brown of s'd county aged 75 years or upwards and of good character for veracity, who being sworn according to law deposed and saith that he was a private soldier in the Revolutionary war and he thinks in 1779 he was drafted into the service and marched under command of Capt Mark Finks now of Madison County and getting near Fredericksburg was countermanded and returned. That he was as he has said under special command of s'd Finks and thinks they were out one month at least. That Capt Finks discharged his duty faithfully during s'd tour and is the same Finks now living in Madison County.

Given under my hand this day and year first above written. Edmund Broadus J.P.

Virginia } S.S.
Madison County }

I do hereby certify that I attended at the residence of Maj. Dennis Crow [S39380], an old and infirm man, aged seventy eight years, who I know to be respectable and of undoubted veracity, and who being first duly qualified, agreeable to Law, made oath before me to the following facts; to wit: That he was raised from a child in the neighbourhood of Capt Mark Finks of the County of Madison, then Culpeper County, that he was acquainted with said Finks from his youth, that the said Mark Finks was a Captain of the Militia previous to the American Revolution, that he the said Dennis Crew enlisted in the 3rd Virginia Rgt. on Continental establishment and after the term of his enlistment had expired he returned home, that he was drafted after his return from the continental army for a tour of duty, the detachment was detailed from the Reg't. at Culpeper Court House and Capt. Mark Finks and Capt. Elijah Kertleys [sic: Elijah Kirtley] were the Company officers in command, that the detachment was marched from thence for Richmond Va. and at Ground Squirrel bridge near Richmond we were met by Col. James Barbour, with orders for us to return home which we did, to the best of my recollection the detachment was out about two weeks, and Capt Finks was in command of his company during the time it was out on this service. That he was again drafted for a tour of duty which he recollects was in the spring of the year 1781 from the then County of Culpeper and which tour was denominated the running tour [see endnote]; that Capt Mark Finks was in that tour as a Captain and in command of a company. Col. James Barbour the commandant of the Regiment, that the service rendered in this tour was in the lower parts of Virginia, that the Reg't. never joined any other Command; that it was kept continually on the march from Williamsburgh from thence to Norfolk, Suffolk and through that part of Virginia then invaded or threatened by the enemy. That Capt Mark Finks continued in the command of his Company during the whole of the tour which was two months, and that after the discharge of the Reg't. that he returned home in company with Capt. Mark Finks in whose neighbourhood he lived. Given under my hand this 23rd day of May 1834.

Alex'r H. Simms

State of Virginia, Madison County, SS.

This day the undersigned Justice of the Peace in and for the county aforesaid, attended at the house of William Yowell Sen'r. of said County who is from bodily infirmity unable to attend the Court of this County, and who being first sworn according to law, states upon oath, that he was born near where he now lives, and raised. that he has all his life been acquainted with Capt. Mark Finks of the County of Madison (then Culpeper County) that when he came of age to be placed upon the muster roll [16], that said Finks was then a Captain of Militia, which was during the Revolutionary war; That he knows of his own knowledge that said Finks was in service as Captain during the said war of the Revolution, one tour of duty, which he thinks was not more than two months, but knows that it was not less than two months. That he the said Yowell was with Capt. Finks this tour, that the detachment he thinks rendezvoused at Culpeper Court House and then marched to Fred'g. [Fredericksburg] Va. and joined the Regt. commanded by Col. Slaughter and from thence marched and joined the main army under command of Gen'l. Mullenburgh [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] before Petersburg Virginia shortly after; the enemy made his appearance in the neighbourhood of where we lay, and our army retreated towards Petersburg, at which place we had an engagement [Battle of Blandford Hill, 25 Apr 1781]. That Capt. Finks was there, in command of his Company upon that occasion – and the said Yowell farther states that it is his opinion that Capt Finks was in service during other tours as he was a Captain at the Commencement of the Revolution, the length of the war and the frequency of calls upon the militia. I the undersigned Justice of the peace do hereby certify that William Yowell is in my opinion a man of veracity and of good character, and the said Yowell farther states that he does not remember the year or time of the year when this service was performed. Given under my hand this 23rd day of May 1834.

Alex'r H Simm

Virginia/ Madison County to wit

I do hereby certify that I attended at the residence of Ann Grayson of the said county – aged sixty four years who being first duly qualified according to law did on her oath say – that she lived a neighbour to Capt Mark Finks during the revolutionary war – that she distinctly recollects – that in the year 1780 Capt Mark Finks was called on to go into service – that he went as the Commander of a company and Richard Dicken went as Lieutenant under him – she distinctly recollects the above circumstances in consequence of her mother's being called on to assist in fixing off Capt Finks in consequence of his wives being sick at the time. She farther states that Capt Finks was gone three months in this tour. And I the undersigned do certify that in my opinion the above named Ann Grayson is a woman of truth and respectability, and that the utmost confidence ought to be placed in what she says.

Given under my hand and seal this 8th day of September 1834. Alex'r H Simms J.P.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA to Mark Finks

KNOW YOU that our GOVERNOUR, on Recommendation from the Court of the County of Culpeper, hath constituted and appointed you Captain of Militia in the said County. IN TESTIMONY whereof these our Letters are made patent.

Witness THOMAS JEFFERSON, Esquire, our said Governour at Richmond the fifteenth Day of July in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Th Jefferson

THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA to *Mark Finks*
Gentleman, greetings
KNOW YOU that our GOVERNOUR, on Recommendation from the
Court of the County of *Carlisle*, hath con-
stituted and appointed you *Mark Finks* of Militia in the said
County. IN TESTIMONY whereof these our Letters are made patent.
Witness THOMAS JEFFERSON, Esquire, our said Governour at
Richmond the *fifteenth* Day of
July in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven
Hundred and Eighty

NOTES:

The "running tour" of May or June 1781 was so named because horses stampeded at night during a thunder storm, and it was feared that Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Legion was attacking.

On 8 Oct 1834 John Finks certified before William Finks that his father, Mark Finks, had died on 7 May 1834, leaving a widow, Eve Finks.

A letter in the file suggests that the claim was rejected for lack of proof of at least six months service.